

CLAIMS

1. A method for manufacturing an electronic product from a plurality of reusable electronic modules (14,16) operable to transmit and receive wireless messages (36) according to a predefined protocol, each module including description data (40) which describes its capabilities, and wherein at least one module is a primary module (16) operable to establish and co-ordinate a product intranet, the method comprising:
 - 5 providing a product intranet blueprint (50) describing modules required for the product,
 - 10 selecting modules for the product including a primary module based on a modules respective description data and the product blueprint, and
 - 15 establishing a product intranet (100) comprising said selected modules and by which intranet said product at least in part operates.
- 20 2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said product blueprint (50) further includes product program code (52) for said primary module, and wherein said blueprint is uploaded to the primary module prior to establishing said product intranet.
- 25 3. A method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the modules include unique identifiers and wherein the establishing of said product intranet comprises the primary module wirelessly exchanging a network identifier with the identifiers of the other selected modules to register said modules.
4. A method according to claim 1,2 or claim 3, wherein the selected modules are arranged within a shielded (82) area prior to establishing said intranet to ensure only selected modules are included in said intranet (100).
- 30 5. A method according to claim 4, wherein the modules are arranged substantially within a product housing (10,12) following said selecting.

6. A method according to claim 5, wherein the transmit power of the modules is decreased to restrict the range (60) of the product intranet.

7. A method according to claim 6, wherein the range of the intranet is
5 between one centimetre and one metre.

8. A method according to claim 5, wherein said product housing (10,12) comprises shielding which restricts the range of the intranet to substantially within said housing.

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9. An electronic product comprising:

a housing (10) having a plurality of electronic modules (14,16) each having transceiver means (24) for transmitting and receiving messages (36), and wherein at least one of the modules is a primary module (16) having;

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means (16b) for storing a product intranet blueprint; and

means (22,28) for establishing a product intranet according to the blueprint.

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10. An electronic product according to claim 9, further comprising control means (22) for controlling the power output by said transceiver means.

11. An electronic product according to claim 10, wherein said control means further comprise a programmable attenuator.

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12. An electronic product manufactured in accordance with any of the methods as claimed in claims 1 to 8.

13. An electronic module (14,16) comprising:

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- transceiver means (24) for receiving a product intranet blueprint (50),
- storage means (26) for storing module description data and for storing said blueprint,

- means (22,28) for establishing a product intranet (100) in accordance with said blueprint.

14. A module according to claim 13, further comprising control means (22) for controlling said transceiver means to limit the range (60) over which said intranet operates.

15. A module according to claim 13 or claim 14, further comprising a keypad part (18a).

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16. A module according to any one of claims 13 to 15, further comprising a display part (14a).

17. A product intranet blueprint (50) for uploading to a recyclable electronic product, comprising data describing module requirements for said product.

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18. A product intranet blueprint according to claim 17, further comprising product function code (52) for operating the product.